

VPSCG – Regional Choice Initiative

Principals Meeting

Agenda

December 1, 2010

Prepared by: Marianne LeDonne, RCI Director

RCI – Open Seats Program

- Ninety Participants
- "Transition to College" Open Seat Course
- District Electives Document to be Finalized

RCI – Dual Enrollment Program

- January 2011 College Courses
- Book Vouchers
- Defining/Identifying LPD Students
- Partnering with Teachers

RCI – Cyber/Technology Program

- FL Courses Grades 7-12
- Training for Independent Online Teachers

RCI – Academy for Success Program

- Opportunity to Host an Academy for Success

Miscellaneous

- Email math and Science Staff
- STEM Invitation
- District Professional Development
- LiveScribe Tutorial

VPSCG – Regional Choice Initiative

Principals Meeting Background

December 1, 2010

Prepared by: Marianne LeDonne, RCI Director

RCI – Open Seats Program

- Ninety students are currently participating in the Open Seats Program. We continue to have six students transferring for a full-day program.
- Included is the "Transition to College" outline submitted by Dr. Fishman and Dr. Sheffield for your review. Please email to me your questions, concerns, and additions you would like to see made to the course. I have asked for a more detailed description of what each topic might include. Guidance Counselors discussed this course with me two weeks ago and I am looking forward to their input, as well. This course is slated to run January 2011. Ambridge and New Brighton have requested to be two- of- the- four sites offering the course; each site will accommodate twenty students. Guidance Counselors have been asked to contact my office as soon as possible as to their students' level of interest in the class. This would meet after school for a weekly three-hour session for the semester. Students who attended the 2009-2010 SAT Prep Course are perfect candidates for this course.
- It was brought to my attention at the November Curriculum Council meeting that districts may be inadvertently listing CTC electives as district courses. Unfortunately, these were included in the list my office compiled for parents and students looking for RCI Open Seat courses. We are in the process of correcting that document and will place it on the RCI website, in addition to sending copies to your Guidance Counselors, in the very near future.

RCI- Dual Enrollment Program

- CCBC, Clarion, and PSU representatives shared the Spring 2011 courses with your Guidance Counselors last week. PSU is offering "African American History" with an additional writing component not usually included in a Dual Enrollment course. Tentatively the site for this course will be Aliquippa; as always, students from any RCI school are welcome to attend.
- The bookstores for CCBC and PSU will be accepting RCI book vouchers from RCI students in lieu of payment for texts. The colleges will invoice the RCI at one time for the texts.
- In an attempt to aid districts in identifying the Low Performing/Disengaged student, we have given school personnel several descriptions from the project to include students who are physically in their classes, but not connected to the

learning process either emotionally or intellectually. Students who have ability, but lack motivation to achieve in school. These students are neither behavioral nor attendance problems, but school doesn't spark them to learn. These students may have a grade point average between 2.0 and 2.9. For Dual Enrollment, the grade point average can be a deterrent to the student being permitted by the higher education institution to take the class. However, PSU has said they will work with a district on an individual basis. The Strategic Plan from the September 27, 2010 Superintendents' Meeting included the following list as possible criteria for identifying the LPD student: attendance over the last three years, 2.5 and below GPA, SAT/PSAT, ACT scores, teacher recommendations, student attitude survey, parent survey, PSSA results, and local assessment data. Please send to the RCI any additional descriptors you think would be helpful in identifying the student this grant was designed to aid.

- It has also been suggested that districts partner with teachers to select the students who would benefit most from RCI. A rubric similar to the H.E.A.T. index was discussed as a possible scoring guide for student selection.

RCI – Cyber/Technology Program

- We received a response from FLVN that they will upgrade the three half-credit courses we purchased to three full-credit courses at no charge to the RCI. The complete FL Online course list is included in the handouts.
- The following email was sent to teachers who have expressed an interest in becoming online teachers through the IU for possible employment after the normal school day:

Dear Teachers,

Thank you for your interest in becoming an online teacher. There are a few steps and training one must go through to be considered as an independent-contract online teacher.

You must be an employed, secondary certified teacher of a Beaver Valley school district or by the Ellwood City School District. You must attend the FLVN - Moodle Training provided here at the IU by the RCI Technology Coordinator and a Robert Morris University professor. That training will be offered after the regular work-day and is expected to be five days for three- hours per day.

Once the training has been successfully completed, teachers may submit their names for consideration and at least one interview.

Although there are no students to be taught at the present time, we anticipate this to be an attractive option for students and parents. We have not advertised this as of yet, but hope to do so after the first of the New Year; we are still in the process of defining the program.

Teachers who are selected may have a roster of up- to- ten students. It is anticipated teachers will receive \$300.00 per student with a \$100.00 stipend for

each student who completes the course with a "C" or better by the deadline established by the Home school district. Specific Procedures and Policies will be created for this online option addressing students and teachers.

If after reading this, you are still interested in beginning the process, please let me know so we can schedule the training.

RCI - Choice Academies/Academy for Success Program

- Please review the enclosed Academy for Success description. Do you have a grade level or several grade levels that fit the description? If so, would you have seats available for Low Performing Disengaged students to attend your Academy? The program specifications as described in the grant are to be in place and documented by policy, program description, curriculum map, and/or strategic plan for the USDE and VPSCG.

Miscellaneous

- May I send the following questions to your secondary Math and Science teachers to reply on the BC STEM Facebook page?
 1. What is your expertise and are you willing to share it?
 2. What is the most important the BC STEM Coalition can do to help you encourage your student to pursue STEM literacy or careers?
- Please see the STEM opportunity enclosed in your materials. Could we see if there is interest to participate that may be made possible through Open Seats?
- Call the RCI Office to design your district-specific professional development program.

Antelope Valley

Antelope Valley

Business and Personal Finance
Business Math
Business English
Criminal and Civil Law
Accounting I LaRouche College
Visual Basic I
Visual Basic II
Computer Applications
Intermediate Computer Applications LaRouche
Internet/Web Design

Idaho

Desktop Publishing
Accounting I
Business Principles and Marketing
Programming Essentials
Introduction to Business
Computing for the College Bound
Financial Fitness

Big Beaver Falls

Computer Concepts
Computer Applications
Word Processing I
Word Processing II
Desktop Publishing
Multimedia
Programming I/II
Financial Management
Entrepreneurship
Exploratory Business
Accounting I/II
Web Page Design

Blackhawk

Financial Record Keeping
Intro to Business
Beginning Keyboarding
Work and Advanced Keyboarding
Sports Marketing
Accounting I/II
Business Communications
Multimedia
Web Page Design

Desktop Publishing with Digital Photography
Powerpoint Presentations
Excel Spreadsheets
Access Database
Programming I
Computer Science I/II
Advanced Placement Computer Science
ASP.net Web Programming

Central Valley

Accounting
Automated Accounting
Business Law
Graphics and Design
Intro to Business
Marketing Management
Multimedia Design
International Business
Publications
Software Application
Video Productions

Ellwood City

Accounting
Multimedia
Web Page Design
Sports Marketing
Video Productions
Advanced Video Production
Newspaper
Yearbook

Franklin

Practical Applications for the Computer
Web Page Design
IT Essentials
Multimedia I/II
Computer Programming Studio
Help Desk

Franklin

Introductory Computer Networking
Computer Programming
Advanced Computer Programming
Accounting I/II
Business Law I/II
Finance for Personal and Business Applications

Document Processing
Word/Powerpoint Computer Applications
Excel/Access Computer Applications
Internet and Webpage Design
Personal Keyboarding

New Brighton

Accounting I/II
Programming I/II
Spreadsheet and Databases
Computer Applications
Career Skills
Applied Communications I/II/III
Investing and Finance

Riverside

Microsoft Business Applications
Introduction to Business
Accounting I
Advanced Accounting
Consumer Math
Sports and Entertainment Marketing
Entrepreneurship and Management
Advanced Microsoft Applications
Introduction to Computer Programming
Computer Programming in Visual Basic
Computer Programming C++/JAVA
Webpage Design
Webpage/ Multimedia II/III
A+ Certification
Marketing and Distribution I,II,III,IV

Rodney

Media Broadcasting
Multimedia in Business/Computer Graphics
Computer Applications
Internet and Web Design
Accounting I/II
Entrepreneur Experience
Computers and Careers

South Side

Computer Basics and Beyond
Computer Language Systems
IT Essentials I/II
Networking I/II
Cisco III/IV

Web Design/Flash MX
Software Applications
Financial Accounting
Managerial Accounting
Personal Finance
Virtual Business

Western Beaver

Web Page Design I/II/III
Microsoft Word I/II
Microsoft Excel I/II
Microsoft Powerpoint I/II
Multimedia Studio I/II
Accounting I/II